

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

ACCIDENT LOCATION: Shelby County Airport (KEET), Alabaster, AL

DATE/TIME OF ACCIDENT: August 2, 2020 at approximately 10:10 a.m.

AIRCRAFT MAKE/MODEL: Piper PA30

REGISTRATION #: N7750y

WITNESS NAME: David K. Duke

DOB: November 21, 1955

WITNESS ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

WITNESS OCCUPATION: Retired

EMPLOYER: None

WHERE WERE YOU AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT? Right front seat of the aircraft

PLEASE TELL IN YOUR OWN WORDS WHAT YOU SAW OR HEARD BEFORE AND AT THE TIME THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED.

During a demonstrated short-field takeoff directly after Mitch (pilot) rotated, I heard Mitch state "positive rate". I then observed Mitch move the gear selector to the "gear up" position. As the gear was coming up, the airplane yawed abruptly to the right and I observed the airplane traveling in the immediate direction of and quickly approaching the tree line parallel with and to the right of Runway 16. Despite immediate and appropriate control inputs under the circumstances, I observed directional control could not be completely reestablished as the aircraft descended quickly to the ground.

[REDACTED] 08/06/2020
SIGNATURE/DATE